

Child Fatality Review

Newsletter

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The Operating Principles of Child Death Review

- The death of a child is a community responsibility.
- A child's death is a sentinel event that should urge communities to identify other children at risk for illness or injury.
- A death review requires multidisciplinary participation from the community.
- A review of case information should be comprehensive and broad.
- A review should lead to an understanding of risk factors.

Tips to Share with Parents for a Safer Fall Season

As the kids go back to school and the weather changes, the fall season brings safety issues that come with sports, Halloween and other activities. We offer these important reminders for a safer fall season for back- to- school. As a parent, it's natural to worry about your child's safety, especially when you aren't able to supervise them.

- Even if you're busy, take the time each day to watch and make sure that your child gets on the bus safely.
- Choose a safe walking route! If your child walks to school each day be sure to plan out a safe route and walk it with them beforehand.
- School violence is a subset of youth violence, a broader public health problem. Violence is the intentional use of physical force or power, against another person, group, or community, with the behavior likely to cause physical or psychological harm. One way to prevent violence/ bullying from occurring in your school is :
 1. Talk to your children
 2. Set clear rules and limits for your children
 3. Know the warning signs
 4. Don't be afraid; know when to intervene
 5. stay involved in your child's school
 6. Join your PTA or Violence Prevention Coalition or forum.
- Make sure your child drinks water a few hours before gearing up for physical activities, and keep drinking after they're done — be smart and stay hydrated!
- If they like recreational activities that involve wheels, concrete or asphalt, then protect their brain by wearing a helmet. Helmets with a Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) approval are good for biking and in-line skating and are available in most sporting goods stores. "Multi-sport" helmets with a Snell B-95 approval are designed for skateboarding, roller-skating, and riding scooters as well as biking and in-line skating. Snell B-95 rated helmets provide more protection but you may have to check out more stores to find one.
- Halloween is a fun time for all the children. It is a time of parties, a time of merriment and yes a time of jubilation and fun. "Dangers of Halloween" is written to inform, not stop the celebration. It is the desire that every single child enjoy this day for many years to come, but with parents being more cautious.

Heads Up to Schools: Know Your Concussion ABCs

- A—Assess** the situation
B—Be alert for signs and symptoms
C—Contact a health care professional

Concussions don't only happen to athletes on the playing field.



Any one of your students could take a spill, knock his/her head, and get a concussion in any number of school settings ranging from the hallway, the playground, the cafeteria, and beyond. A concussion is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head. Concussions can also occur from a fall or blow to the body that causes the head to move rapidly back and forth. Even what seems to be a mild bump to the head can be serious. Be alert for any of the following signs and symptoms.

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about events
- Answers questions slowly
- Repeats questions
- Can't recall events *prior* to hit, bump, or fall
- Can't recall events *after* hit, bump, or fall
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)
- Shows behavior or personality changes
- Forgets class schedule or assignments

October is Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Awareness Month



The United States has one of the highest infant mortality rates in the world. More than 25,000 babies are stillborn every year, with more than half occurring during the last trimester of pregnancy. Every year there are 4,500 sudden, unexpected deaths in the United States.

Have a Safe and Healthy Halloween

For many families, Halloween is a fun time to dress up in costumes, go trick-or-treating, and eat yummy treats. Halloween can also be an opportunity to provide nutritious snacks, get physical activity, and focus on safety. Make sure kids stay safe by wearing well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips and falls. Trick-or-treaters should carry a flashlight & wear reflective markers on their costumes to help them see and help others see them. Adults should examine all treats for choking hazards.

Please send suggestions or articles that you would like to see included in the newsletter. We welcome the chance to highlight your activities, overviews of your program, local team achievements, projects that have come from local reviews, etc.

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